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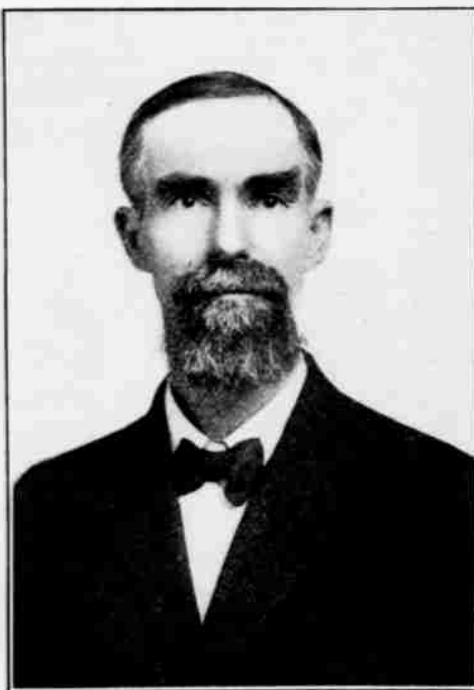
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SHOREWOOD FARMS CO., Saugatuck, Mich.

Kentucky's Apple King

By E. J. Paxton



Herbert Anderson.

A story that Irvin Cobb likes to tell is that when he left his native town and went East to make his name and fortune and was introduced as "Cobb, of Paducah," a frequent query was: "Paducah—is that the name of a drink or a recently discovered disease?" Most everybody that knows Cobb now knows that Paducah is the metropolis of West Kentucky, the home of "Judge Priest," and that there Mr. Cobb has found the inspiration for many of his best stories and humorous sketches. To use a bromide, Cobb put Paducah on the map.

There is another man in the country near Paducah who will bring added fame to the town in a few years, as well as to the state. Ask anyone you meet what Kentucky is noted for, and the answer will be: For its pretty women, fine whiskies and fast horses and tobacco. In a very short time the knowing ones will reply: Its pretty women, fine apples—at least, chivalrous men will place the ladies first, and deservedly, too—fast horses and tobacco. The days of whiskey seem to be numbered, since the greater portion of Kentucky is now "dry." The commonwealth will always be famed for its tobacco, but recently it has been discovered that the apple is a BIG possibility and destined to be a leading crop in a short time.

A good deal of credit for this is due to one man just out of Paducah—Herbert Anderson. Mr. Anderson has awakened the people of his section and all over the state to the fact that his immediate neighborhood raises the finest winesap apples grown in the United States. He has been doing it for years, but, like the prophet we are oft told of, the folk in his own country did not give him honor. Anderson's apples have been known to the Agriculture Department at Washington, where they have been declared to be the best of their character of which it has record, and they have received equal recognition from the

Kentucky agricultural authorities at Lexington. Writing in the Inland Farmer, Lowell Roudebush, an authority, says: Kentuckians—Don't forget this: For the forty-ninth time we have said it—your state is great in fruit possibilities. In 1912 the finest winter apples of their varieties I saw were in McCracken County, in the Purchase. Just think of it! Better than I saw in New York. All because there was a man behind them."

"The man behind them" was Herbert Anderson. In the year Mr. Roudebush speaks of, Anderson gathered nearly 12,000 bushels of apples from twelve acres. Any man who knows the value of a good winesap apple can easily compute what the return was. In telling the story of how he learned to raise apples, Mr. Anderson said when he first started out to farm, as a young man, he planted three acres in apples for his table use. "I have always contended that anything you do should receive all of your thought and energy. So I started out with those baby trees to tend them as carefully, as painstakingly as I could, and soon learned it was quite a task. Each season taught me more and more. At first I did not succeed, but in fifteen years now I have never had a failure. All that is necessary in this community to raise fine apples is knowing how and working. The job can't be delegated to the hired man. It needs scientific attention. Give the proper culture, fertilizer, pruning and spraying and Nature will do all the rest. The crop is sure and certain. We, down here, do not have to artificially heat our orchards to protect from Spring frosts. We give our trees the necessary vitality, and the frosts we have do not injure them at all."

Mr. Anderson has a great many trees on his place producing 25 to 30 bushels each, and at \$1.50 a bushel, it is easy to figure the yield in dollars and cents. He is a crank about his trees receiving the proper attention, and it is doubtful if the most devoted mother visits more attention on a favorite child than he does on all of his trees. Of course, to this is due in a measure of his success. Like all successful fruit growers, he has done some experimenting and he has developed a seedling from a Rome Beauty which he calls "The Paducah" that apple dealers declare will make Paducah famous. It is a splendid apple in every way and comes just at a time when there are no other apples on the market—in August—and commands not less than \$2.50 a bushel at the orchard. It is predicted by those who profess to know that almost all America will be eating "The Paducah" before long. Then Mr. Cobb can tell those who are inquisitive about Paducah that it is something good to eat.



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